personal information registrant outputs information to a personal information referencer in response to a request by a personal information registrant. An inquiry code is issued by generating and outputting an inquiry code in accordance with an instruction from the personal information registrant. Personal information is acquired by requesting the personal information referencer to enter the inquiry code and outputs the specific piece of personal information identified by the inquiry code if the codes match. The office action cites column 10, lines 18-57 and column 7, line 56 to column 9, line 3 and column 31, line 18 to column 37, line 16. It is alleged that Takahashi teaches, among other things, storing inquiry data to facilitate entry of shared authentication data, for receiving shared authentication data in response to the presented inquiry data and retrieving stored inquiry data for presentation based on received entity identification data. However, Applicants are unable to determine what information in the Takahashi reference corresponds to the claimed "shared authentication data". As best understood, it does not appear that the Takahashi reference utilizes, among other things, stored inquiry data to allow entry of shared authentication data for initialization nor retrieving the stored inquiry data for presentation nor receiving shared authentication data in response to the presented inquiry data. As such, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. As to claim 3, Applicants respectfully submit that this claim requires, among other things, that a function of entity identification data is stored and so is shared authentication type data. The method also includes subsequently generating data representing a function of the received entity identification data and selecting under control of a processing unit, stored inquiry data for presentation to a user based on the obtained stored shared authentication type data. The office action cites column 7, line 56 to column 9 and other portions alleged to teach the storage of the functions of the data is described as well as the inquiry data for presentation. However, these cited portions appear to

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teach a different approach. Moreover, again Applicants are unable to find the portion of the reference that, among other things, teaches the data representing a function of the entity identification data and subsequently generating data representing a function of the received entity identification data and obtaining the stored shared authentication type data based on the generated functions of the received entity identification data. Accordingly, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

As to claim 5, this claim requires, among other things that to determine whether to initialize the operation of the security information operation, that a received shared authentication data is received in response to presented inquiry data and combined with previously received authentication data. This combination does not appear to be taught or suggested by the cited reference. Again, the cited portion appears to be silent as to this combining of the information. As such, this claim is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

As to claim 6, Applicants respectfully reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to claim 1 and also note that again the Takahashi reference appears to be silent to, among other things, storing by different processors, and any identification data and inquiry data to facilitate entry of shared authentication data for initialization. This shared authentication data does not appear to be present in the Takahashi reference. Moreover, the claim requires retrieving by the same processor that stored the inquiry data, the inquiry data for a presentation. A third processor as claimed must receive shared authentication data in response to the presented inquiry data. Again, there does not appear to be a third processor that receives shared authentication data in response to presented inquiry data as claimed. Accordingly, this claim is also believed to be in condition for allowance.
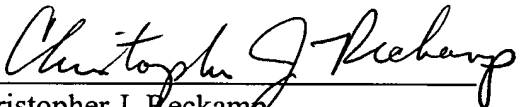
As to claim 10, Applicants respectfully reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to claim 6. Accordingly, this claim is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

As to claims 11, 13, 15 and 16, Applicants respectfully reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 respectively. Accordingly, these claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____July 7, 2004_____   By:_____
                                           Christopher J. Reckamp
                                           Reg. No. 34,414

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